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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Greece

[CONFIDENTIAL] DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Repatriation of Greek Armenians to Soviet Armenia

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. The following conclusions were drawn by Greek authorities as to the reasons why Greek Armenians are wishing to be repatriated to Soviet Armenia:
 - a. The desire in the past of those Armenians who were forcibly expatriated during the war of 1914-18, to return to Soviet Armenia.
 - b. Their desire to establish in Soviet Armenia a national home.
 - c. The desire on the part of a large proportion of Armenians who during the occupation of Greece showed anti-national (Greek) activities to leave Greece fearing possible reprisals.
 - d. Their Left-wing sympathies.
2. Russia is said to favor the concentration of Armenians in Soviet Armenia because this affords:
 - a. An increase in manpower.
 - b. Recruits for the forces of the Armenian Soviet Republic.
 - c. The possibility of creating problems for Turkey through the Armenian Republic, which is expected to lay claims to the former Armenian territories of Kars and Ardahan. In pursuit of their claims, an increase of the armed forces of the Armenian Republic is envisaged with the ultimate object of provoking frontier incidents.
3. The movement has some propaganda value bearing in mind the primitive conditions which still prevail in Soviet Armenia. The influx of Armenians from various European countries would have the effect of raising the standard of living throughout the country which would be described as a Russian achievement, due to the progressive spirit of Communism.
4. 12,000 Armenians living in Greece have registered for repatriation and it is anticipated that 17,000 Armenians in all will leave Greece.

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